

First Lutheran Church  
Castroville, Texas.

HABS No. Tex-363

HABE  
TEX  
163-CAST  
12-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of Texas-3

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Bartlett Cocke, District Officer  
615 Maverick Bldg., San Antonio, Texas.

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FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Castroville, Medina County, Texas.

Owner: American Lutheran Church, Texas District

Date of Erection: 1845

Architect: Unknown

Builder: August and Andrew Halbardier

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: One and steeple

Materials of Construction: Limestone, cypress and mesquite.

Other Existing Records: Lutheran Church Minutes

Additional Data:

The first constitution of this church was written and presented January 30, 1845. The first minister was Christian Oefinger.

The rock work was done by August and Andrew Halbardier, and the wood work was done by Frank Steindler and Peter Ichorn. The present steeple is not original, having been built in 1906 by Mr. Louis Fous. The original steeple was at the southwest end of the church and the face of the steeple was flush with the face of the wall; it was framed of cypress and was somewhat different in style from the present steeple. Ordinarily the steeple and entrance doors are at the same end; this church originally had the steeple at one end and the entrance door at the other. When it became necessary to repair the original steeple, the members of the church decided instead of repairing the old steeple to tear it down and build a new one on the Northeast corner. This church is of no particular architectural or historical value other than that it was one of the first buildings in Castroville, Texas.

This information contributed by Louis Fous, Castroville, Texas.

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APPROVED: Bartlett Cocke  
Bartlett Cocke, District Officer

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3/12/37 TKW